Extension of validity for charter permits

3918. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of days taken to process applications for renewal of validity and extension of validity for charter permits in his Ministry from small entrepreneurs in fisheries;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government insists that representatives come from distant places to process such cases;

(c) whether Government are aware that small firms cannot afford liaison officers;

(d) what steps would be initiated to streamline the functioning of his Ministry; and

(e) what are the instructions given by his Ministry to give prompt attention to units in difficulties in fishery sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (e) While no fixed time frame has been stipulated for disposal of applications for renewal/extension of validity of charter permits, applications complete with all requisite documents are disposed of expeditiously. The applications are considered purely on merits, and Government does not insist on personal visits by the representatives of the firms.

Long-term strategy for development to domestic deep-sea fishery sector

3919. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any long-term strategy has been developed by Government for the domestic deep-sea fishery sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have sought any outside consultancy or opinion to formulate a long-term strategy for maintaining the existing profile and substance of the deep-sea fishing sector; and

(d) if so, the details of all imports and agencies which helped formulated a long-term strategy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) and (b) Several long term measures have been taken by the Government for promotion of domestic deep sea fishery sector. Some of the measures taken are indicated in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) On a request from Government, FAO sent a Consultant in Feb., 1992 to study the status of the deep sea fishing industry, to identify the problems and to suggest remedial measures for the sustainable and viable development of deep sea fishing fleet in India. The report proposes that a Demonstration Commercial Fishing should be undertaken for a minimum period of two years to establish the commercial viability of deep sea fishing vessels. Measures are also proposed for the gradual and phased deployment of deep sea fishing and for the collection of catch data in order to have an effective fisheries management and for ensuring the sustainable development of deep sea fishing in India.

STATEMENT

Long-term measures taken by the Govt. for Promotion of Indian Deep Sea Fishing

(i) Augmentation of deep sea fishing fleet through judicious mix of indegenous, imported and charter of fishing vessels.

(ii) Provision of 33% subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.

(iii) Provision of loan facility by Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd. (SCICI).

(iv) Systematic and intensive survey of fishery resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone.

(v) Augmentation of harbour facilities at major and minor ports.

(vi) Supply of diesel and oil at concessional prices for deep sea fishing vessels, exporting marine products.

(vii) Regulation of fishing by foreign vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone.

(viii) Training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.

(ix) Assistance to deep sea fishing companies for diversified fishing.

(x) Assistance for tuna and other fish processing.

(xi) Grant-in-aid to provide interest subsidy on loan for requisition of deep sea fishing vessels.